

## WASHINGTON CITY.

SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 11, 1857.

Mr. Henry M. Lewis, Montgomery, Alabama, is our general agent for the State of Alabama and Tennessee, assisted by E. F. Lewis, James O. Lewis, and James D. Lewis.

Mr. C. W. James, No. 1 Harrison street, Cincinnati, Ohio, is our general agent for the Western States and Texas, assisted by H. J. Thomas, William H. Thomas, Thomas M. James, Dr. A. L. Collins, George Munn, and Richard Lusk. Receipts of either will be good.

## KANSAS AFFAIRS.—No. 2.

We have shown that Mr. Buchanan and the democratic party stand upon precisely the same ground in relation to the principles of self-government in Kansas. Their republican adversaries clamorously denounced both, and have strenuously resisted every effort fairly made to carry out those principles. The President was called upon to fill the vacancy in the office of governor occasioned by the resignation of Geary. The peace, quiet, and general welfare of Kansas depended upon a wise selection. Under ordinary circumstances, it may not be difficult to secure the services of a person competent and adapted to the place. But the good of Kansas and the welfare of the country required that a man of superior capacity and character should be placed in charge of the territorial administration. The President anxiously sought a person of this description. His attention was turned towards Mr. Walker, who had long represented Mississippi in the Senate of the United States, and had been his colleague in Mr. Polk's administration, and whose capacity for the performance of executive functions had been recently vouched for in an emphatic manner by numerous leading southern statesmen, who recommended him as worthy and deserving to be placed at the head of a department to aid the President, among other things, in carrying out the views and wishes of the democratic party in regard to Kansas. If qualified for such a position, it would not only be safe, but wise and prudent, to intrust him with the executive authority of a Territory. If he had been a stranger, instead of having been an associate for years in the Senate, and through one presidential term as a constitutional adviser of the Executive, he would have been justified, upon recommendations from the South, in appointing him to the office conferred. When first tendered the place it was declined; but, upon reconsideration, was accepted. In his letter of acceptance Mr. Walker showed that he concurred with the President and the democratic party concerning the policy proper to be pursued in Kansas. He said:

"I understand that you and all your cabinet cordially concur in the opinion expressed by me, that the actual bona fide residents of the Territory of Kansas, by a fair and regular vote, unaffected by fraud or violence, must be permitted, in adopting their State constitution, to decide for themselves what shall be their social institutions. This is the great fundamental principle of the act of Congress organizing that Territory, affirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States, and is in accordance with the views uniformly expressed by me throughout my public career. I contemplate a peaceful settlement of this question by an appeal to the intelligence and patriotism of the whole people of Kansas, who should all participate, freely and fully, in this decision, and by a majority of whose votes the determination must be made as the only proper and constitutional mode of adjustment."

This declaration of principles met with approbation everywhere except with the republicans, who, for mischievous purposes, clung to the Topeka folly—called by them a constitution. Democratic newspapers, in all quarters, congratulated their readers upon the Kansas matters being finally committed to safe and proper hands, with the cheering prospect of an early and satisfactory adjustment. A leading democratic paper in Kansas, after describing the qualifications which a governor ought to possess, said: "A man of this stamp is Robert J. Walker, recently appointed by President Buchanan to the executive chair of this Territory. A long and intimate acquaintance with Mr. Walker enables us, with the utmost confidence and certainty, to make this statement." The President deemed it fortunate for the country, and particularly for Kansas, that he had been successful in obtaining the services of one deemed by all democrats and many others so suitable for the position of governor of that distracted Territory.

The hope of securing to the people of Kansas every right and advantage to which they might be entitled induced the President to search with equal care for a secretary in whose ability and integrity all would confide. Mr. Stanton had long represented Tennessee in Congress, and had acquired a wide-spread reputation for talents as a business man. He was identified with the principles of the Kansas bill, and known as an unflinching democrat. Both he and Mr. Walker had represented southern constituents to their entire satisfaction. Mr. Stanton, like Mr. Walker, accepted office rather to gratify his democratic friends and the demands of duty than because he desired the place conferred. The personal and political characters of both gave ample assurance that the laws in Kansas would be ably and faithfully administered.

Under these circumstances, no one not disposed to be querulous could fail to approve the President's appointment of these gentlemen, and least of all could a southern man do so.

Has the President, since these appointments, in any respect changed his ground in relation to Kansas affairs? Certainly he has not. His instructions show that his former avowed opinions still controlled his action. On this subject he said:

"The regular legislature of the Territory having authorized the assembling of a convention to frame a constitution, to be accepted or rejected by Congress under the provisions of the federal constitution, the people of Kansas have the right to be protected in the peaceful election of delegates for such a purpose, under such authority, and the convention itself has a right to similar protection in the opportunity of tranquil and undisturbed deliberation. When such a constitution shall be submitted to the people of the Territory they must be protected in the exercise of their right of voting for or against that instrument, and the free expression of the popular will must not be interrupted by fraud or violence."

A copy of these instructions was furnished Mr. Stanton for his guidance, as he preceded Mr. Walker by several weeks in reaching Kansas. Surely no candid mind will arrive at the conclusion that the protection thus directed to be given is not within the appropriate duties of a territorial executive in promoting and securing legitimate self-government. Instead of directing the people of Kansas what they shall do, it directs protection while they are doing what they have the clear acknowledged right to do. Thus far, it is undeniable that the President has performed his whole duty, and nothing but his duty. Had he done less, he might have been subject to reproach for omitting what the law and the obligations of his position clearly enjoin. Protecting the voter from fraud and violence and the delegates from disturbance will never be deemed inconsistent with duty by any except those who desire to commit fraud, violence, and disturbance.

## THE POLITICAL TEXT-BOOK OR ENCYCLOPEDIA.

We desire to call particular attention to the advertisement of Mr. M. W. Cluskey, in another column of our paper, concerning his new political Text-Book, now offered for sale. Mr. Cluskey kindly placed upon our table a copy of his work as soon as it was issued from the press. We have had ample time to examine it, and several occasions to refer to it for information. We unhesitatingly pronounce it one of the most convenient and useful books of reference that we have ever met with.

It will be recollected that Mr. Cluskey prepared a book for the last presidential campaign, which he called the *Democratic Electoral Hand-Book*, and which was used to great advantage in the canvass throughout the country. Indeed, the great popularity and utility of his first work, and the constant calls for it, even since the campaign has been ended, have suggested the plan and the preparation of this second one. His last work is very complete. He has rearranged the whole matter of the first work, thrown it into the encyclopedia form, added an immense amount of matter, made a copious index to the work, by which anything wanted may be found in a moment, with clear and ample explanatory notes of his own, by which everything obscure is rendered plain and intelligible.

To the politician, the editor, and all who desire information on the leading party measures and topics of the times, this book will be found of the greatest convenience and value. The author has performed his task with decided judgment and ability, and we trust that he will meet with a corresponding remuneration for his labor.

## HON. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

We learn from our southern exchanges that the barbed wire at Canton, Mississippi, on the 25th ult., in honor of Colonel Jefferson Davis, was composed of nearly two thousand persons, the ladies being present in full numbers. A shady grove and level space of some several acres adjoining the railroad depot had been selected for the tables, reception, speaking, &c. Col. McWillie was president of the day; and speeches were delivered by Col. O. R. Singleton, Col. Davis, Gov. McRae, Col. McWillie, T. J. Wharton, esq., Col. D. C. Glenn, Capt. Estelle, Colonel Sim. R. Adams, and a number of other gentlemen.

## HON. JOHN V. WRIGHT.

From the seventh district, Tennessee, represented by this able and gallant democrat, we have (says the Memphis Appeal) but little to chronicle except that he is gallantly prosecuting the canvass, although as yet no knight of know-nothingism has been found bold enough to enter the tournament against him.

## THE SCOTCH HERRING TRADE.

From an official report recently presented to the British House of Commons it appears that the total quantity of herrings cured during 1856 was 609,984 barrels; the total quantity branded, 223,281; and the total quantity exported, 347,614; being a decrease upon the preceding year of 156,715 barrels in the quantity cured, of 57,300 in the quantity branded, and of 94,632 in the quantity exported. The number of barrels of herrings assorted after the Dutch mode, and branded accordingly, was 188,824; "Full," and 298 "Maties," being a decrease from the preceding year of 35,955 "Full," and 342 "Maties." Herrings caught but not cured, the quantity in 1856 amounted to 107,685 barrels or crans, being a decrease upon the preceding year of 23,074 barrels or crans; and when this account is added to amount of herrings cured, the total produce of the herring fisheries for 1856 amounts to 717,673 barrels, being a decrease upon the preceding year of 179,789 barrels or crans.

## FOREIGN COMMERCE OF FRANCE FOR THE MONTH OF MAY.

We derive from the *Paris Moniteur* the following statistics, showing the foreign commerce of France during the month of May, having published in previous numbers of the *Union* the official returns of French trade for the four preceding months of 1857, and which we again introduce for the purpose of comparison:

The total amount of customs revenue during the month was 18,589,184 francs, equal to \$3,716,037, being an increase of 3,492,710 francs (\$698,542) over the corresponding month of 1856, and of 2,025,242 francs (\$405,048) over that of 1855. The first five months of the present year show a total amount of receipts of 78,420,848 francs, equal to \$15,684,169, showing an increase of 10,746,102 francs (\$2,149,220) over the corresponding period of 1856, and of 7,931,100 francs (\$1,586,220) over that of 1855. Taking the comparison between the present year and the preceding one, the articles yielding revenue which show the greatest increase are coffee, 5,730,544 francs, or \$1,146,129; wine and spirits, 3,178,147 francs, or \$635,929; foreign sugar, 4,274,923 francs, or \$854,955; French colonial sugar, 674,163 francs, or \$134,333; oleaginous seeds, 133,088 francs, or \$26,618; linen and hempen wove goods, 144,563 francs, or \$28,913; non-enumerated wove goods, or \$93,757; gold and silver, \$1,935 francs, or \$16,387; linen and hempen thread, 77,277 francs, or \$15,453; articles of wool and soda, 61,569 francs, or \$12,314; coal, 49,099 francs, or \$9,920; malagasy, 28,144 francs; zinc, 13,197 francs, or \$2,639; raw and spun silk, 9,620 francs, or \$1,924; indigo, 6,783 francs, or \$1,356.

The articles upon which the greatest decrease is observed are raw cotton, 1,402,183 francs, equal to \$280,437; raw wool, 1,193,324 francs, or \$238,665; bar-iron and steel, 1,814,065 francs, or \$362,813; rough cotton, 260,369 francs, or \$52,074; corn, 46,277 francs, or \$9,255; cochineal, 40,345 francs, or \$8,069; lead and brass, 27,373 francs, or \$5,474; pepper, 16,092 francs, or \$3,218; cattle and sheep, 9,265 francs, or \$1,852.

The preceding returns exhibit quite a satisfactory and progressive condition of the foreign commerce of France, though the falling off in a few of the leading raw materials, such as raw cotton and wool, would seem to indicate a depressed state of manufacturing industry.

## MISSISSIPPI CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATIONS.

We learn through a private source that Hon. Mr. Lamar has been nominated for Congress by the democratic convention of the first district of Mississippi, represented in the last Congress by Hon. D. S. Wright.

The Memphis Appeal of Tuesday says: "We learn by a telegraphic dispatch, dated yesterday at Columbus, that the Hon. William Barksdale has been nominated by acclamation as the democratic candidate for Congress in the third district. Capt. Barksdale has served his constituents ably and faithfully, and his nomination was a matter not only expected, but justly due to him. We doubt whether he will meet with any formal and serious opposition."

Hon. Caleb Cushing has presented a portrait of Washington to the city government of Newburyport, Massachusetts.

## The Albany Argus says:

"Gov. Marcy leaves a widow, a daughter, and two sons. Mrs. Marcy was at her sister's in Rochester when Mr. M. died. The daughter was with friends in Troy, and one of the sons is in the navy and the other in California."

## THE FOURTH OF JULY IN BOSTON IN 1857.—THE POLITICAL PARSONS PREACHING DIS-UNION.

The newspapers bring us accounts of the manner in which the modern Athenians passed the eighty-first anniversary. There was a partial gloom thrown over the celebration of the 4th by the city authorities of Boston, caused by the bursting of a mortar at the exhibition of fire-works in the evening, which mortally wounded four men.

But there was even greater cause of mourning to the friends of the Union in the manner in which the day, that used to be a national jubilee in Boston, was celebrated by the political parsons and sectional bigots who now seem to control her once large, enlightened, and grand national sentiment. As, in the days of witchcraft and the persecutions of Ann Hutchinson and Roger Williams, the clergy of Boston were foremost in fanning "the devil's embers," with John Cotton and Cotton Mather, who were more knaves than fanatics, at their head—so in these days of disunion, fanaticism, and bigotry against foreign-born, the Boston clergy, especially the Unitarians, take the lead.

They have reassumed much of the spirit of dictation which marked the theocracy that governed Boston in the worst days of old priestcraft. We read of those early bigots that in the very year they carried the first charter from Charlestown over to Boston, in which there were then but a few hovers set up, one of the first laws the clergy got passed was, "that no man be admitted to freedom in the Commonwealth but such as are members of some church within this jurisdiction." That, of course, meant then an orthodox church. And, thereupon, old Blaxton, who then owned half of Boston, quit all his possessions, and abandoned the town, declaring that he had come from England to escape the tyranny of the "Lord's bishops," and now the Lord save him from the tyranny of the "Lord's brethren!"

And, again, in these days we have the "Lord's brethren" domineering in the pulpit, and scaring the people with the raw head and bloody bones of slavery and Popery.

To show further what notions of government the bigoted Boston clergy have taught from the beginning, we find the same dogmatism which now marks the abolition clergy, first commencing its teachings with the Rev. John Cotton, who, when he came over, changed the name of the town from Shawmut to Boston. Driven from England, coming a fugitive there from religious persecution for preaching human equality and liberty of conscience, he no sooner got into power than he turned despot and inquisitor. He was one of the political preachers of that day, the prototypes of the Theodore Parkers, the Rev. William R. Alger, the Stones, Huntingdons, Dexters, Kallouchs, and the like spiritual political leaders of the modern fanaticism of political anti-slavery and know-nothingism, which has its headquarters in Boston.

In the old days of fanaticism the Boston authorities, even before they had a Fourth of July to celebrate, called upon the clergy to expound government to them. So in these days, when the abolition clergy of Massachusetts have established anti-slavery as the theocracy of the Commonwealth, (so that no man can be a freeman or hold office in Massachusetts unless he belongs to that church and curses the South,) the city authorities invariably call upon an anti-slavery minister to preach a Fourth of July oration, and curse the South as obscenely as Shimei of old cursed King David.

This year they invited the Rev. William R. Alger to do it, and he did it in a style as arrogantly dictatorial, and a temper as foreign to the principles of national Union and State rights, as was old John Cotton's discourse against self-government and religious freedom when he preached the first political sermon in Boston at the general court election in 1634.

"God," said old John Cotton, "never ordained a democracy as a government either for Church or State; for," said he, "if the people be governors, who shall be governed?" Therefore the Church must govern the people, and John Cotton and his orthodox clergy must govern the Church. That was the only thing, in the minds of the clergy of that day, to make "a righteous government."

Just so the Rev. William R. Alger claims for his black-republican church in New England the exclusive right to govern the Union. What he wants, in his own language, is "to secure national righteousness at home."

This national righteousness, he tells us, is anti-slavery. There must not be a slave in the whole country. Without internal holiness no nation can long stand. Slavery is a national sin, and therefore this Union cannot stand with slavery at the South! notwithstanding the reverend demagogue had just before indulged in extravagant eulogiums upon the fact that we are enjoying in this country "glorious advantages," "priceless blessings," and an entire "exemption from all those enormous, unrighteous, vampire burdens of accumulated debt, war establishments, feudal laws, tithings, and brooding fear which crush the over-crowded populations of the Old World to the earth, and drain out the energy of their life-blood; with a simple, self-ruling democracy, peace and plenty, the common school, the open church, and all the natural rights of the individual unimpeded."

All is sunshine till he names "slaveholders" and the South, and then the rabid monomania of his sect is upon him. He mutters forth "the muffled wails of the plantation;" his straining eyes behold "sable groups of woe," "sundered families," and "a snake's nest!" The country at once tumbles into "the lowest pit of infamy." It goes clean down to "bottomless ruin;" and after it is in this bottomless pit of infamy and ruin, then come, as the final piece in this explosion of Fourth-of-July anti-slavery fireworks, "demoralization, poverty, hostility, and contempt from abroad, war and black destruction." And all this terrible cataclysm is to come upon us, notwithstanding the North and South have lived together seventy years under a constitution sanctioning slavery, made by men probably quite as eminent in piety and statesmanship as the Rev. Wm. R. Alger himself!

But the remedy—aye, the remedy—let us see that, reverend censor and profound statesman! And here we have it:

First, says Sir Oracle, "The free States alone represent the true genius of the republic." That is his prelude. Grant it, and, like Archimedes, his lever will move the world.

But when did the free States begin to represent this true genius of the republic, Mr. Alger's black

genius of negro philanthropy and negro suffrage? It must have been since the 3,000 New England ministers turned the pulpit into a political rostrum. Before that, the historian tells us that, in speaking of colonial free government, freedom, "the epidemic of America, broke out in Massachusetts just fifteen years after its first appearance in Virginia." "The principle of universal suffrage was the usage of Virginia, while in Massachusetts the avenues of political power could be opened only by the elders, and the elective franchise was confined to members of the church, and the government was an aristocracy of theocracy." Thus, slavery did not prevent Virginia being ahead of Massachusetts in the fundamental elements of free institutions.

Granting Mr. Alger's very modest assumption for a crude clergyman—viz: that the free States only represent the genius of the republic—his conclusions and his remedy follow in very nice sequence, provided, however, we will grant him another postulate, viz: that the slave States have, and always have had, the preponderating power in the government! True, they are in a minority, because, if they were not, how could this great oracle of State rights subdue them as he proposes to do? And if the country has prospered so gloriously under their rule, would it be wise to seek to overthrow it, and put the power into the hands of such men as this rabid abolitionist?

But when did law or logic ever trouble the reasoning powers of a fanatical abolitionist like Mr. Alger? We must, therefore, let our reverend minister of blood and peace have his say:—first, that "the slave States have the preponderating shaping power in the government, and if they hold it the Union will go on as it has done!" Not a very bad business neither, if it will prosper as it has done.

But, says this reverend Daniel of the day, come to judgment with the Fourth, if the slave States are suffered to retain this power in the government, why, then, America will inevitably be plunged into bottomless ruin.

He does not stop to reflect how long America has kept out of that bottomless pit, even with the slave States having an actual preponderance from the first day of independence for fifty years, and then an equality in numbers until the admission of California, all of which, in giving the free States preponderance in the Senate, was done by these same "slaveholders," amidst what this false-mouthed reverend orator describes as "the fierce clamor of the slavholding interest for fresh prey, new chains and whips, and a longer lease of power, that drowns the voices of the revolutionary fathers, vilifies the Declaration of Independence, incenses the country, disgraces the age, and insults the world."

Oh yes! it certainly drowns that voice of our revolutionary fathers which said, in the constitution of the United States "the importation of such persons as the States think proper to admit shall not be prohibited" for twenty years. "No person held to service in one State, escaping into another, shall be discharged from such service, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service may be due."

But now how are we to be kept out of this "bottomless pit of ruin?" Listen to reverend Sir Oracle, and he will expound, as he has done to the inviting authorities of the once national city of Boston.

First he says "if the North permits the slave States to withdraw from the Union and set up a separate confederacy, the conflicting ideas of North and South will be vastly aggravated, quarrels will occur, and fraternal slaughter unquestionably close the day."

That, the reverend sage tells us, is to be the result of a voluntary and peaceful separation of the Union. So, that must be prevented; and how? Not by conciliation or justice, but by force. He is going to stop that separation; and how will he do it? Simply by conquering the South and reducing them to provinces of the North.

"We (the North) must rally in our might at the ballot-box, assume the controlling power in the national government, and mould our legislation in such a way as to secure the strict confinement of slavery to its present possessions and to provide for its final abolition!"

"The free States," adds this clerical expounder, "are simply to unite in one grand party of righteous sentiment, take possession of the executive power, and direct the future conduct of the country."

Well, how simple! Don't everybody see—don't the merchants and manufacturers and mechanics of Boston and the North see—that is the simplest and quietest and most reasonable thing in the world? Why, the free States ought to govern the southern States, on the same principle that southern slaveholders govern their negroes; for, says this self-complacent, insulting Rev. Mr. Alger, it is our duty to do it, because our civilization is higher, our temper purer, and the superior ought to govern the inferior.

It is said in one of the morning papers that Mr. Alger was hissed while uttering his insults to the South; but the same press says that it omits those passages which called forth the hisses. What must they have been, if the former passage is not one of them!

Here, then, we have, through this reverend beligerent, a declaration of war by the free-soilers of Massachusetts against the South! They are to be governed by the North, as superiors govern inferiors. The legislation of the country is to be shaped so as to rob them, against their consent, of a thousand millions of property recognized by their own laws, and secured to them by the constitution. If they attempt to withdraw from the Union peaceably, rather than be governed and plundered in this fashion, the North will not suffer it, and must keep them in the Union by main force! Just fight them to prevent family quarrels! That is Mr. Alger's specific. In short, it is civil war and fraternal slaughter any how, unless the South, in abject submission, bows to the North as an inferior to a superior! And when that day comes, valor and self-respect will have departed from the earth!

This was the lesson to which Boston, in her municipal capacity, listened on the 4th of July, 1857. And in that capacity we greatly fear she will vote to print this infamous oration, with the city seal attached, and still hold out the hand of commerce to buy the cotton of the South, to enrich the capitalists and support the laborers and mechanics of Massachusetts!

Why, this same Rev. Mr. Alger, we are told, was educated and brought up upon the money his father, the great iron-founder, has earned from the government of this Union, South as well as North, in his contracts for cannon and munitions of war to defend our nationality!

And who would further believe, oh! wise and

reverend hypocrite, that, at the same time he was denouncing the South, (which, at least takes care of its worn-out laborers,) there was under his eye, and on the records of the city of Boston, a recent presentation of the grand jury of Suffolk of her almshouses for her poor at Deer Island, in which that grand jury describe a degree of suffering, misery, filth, wretchedness, and exposure that no "walling of the plantations," not even in Uncle Tom's Log Cabin, can approach in disgusting destitution? Men, women, and children—the well, the diseased, the dying, and the dead—aye, says that report, all huddled together under miserable wooden sheds, exposed to the freezing cold and the drenching rain!

That is the way anti-slavery Boston cares for her destitute, while the hypocritical charity of one of her belated political clergy goes a wool-gathering on the 4th of July to the well-fed and dry-housed slaves of the South, to stir up strife, bloodshed, disunion, sectional hatred, and fraternal slaughter!

Such is the present apparent political aspect of Boston on the 81st 4th of July, but assuredly the time of her deliverance from political empiry will come. There are national men in her midst who can see beyond this sectional prison, and who wait in faith for this sort of political witchcraft, which has diseased the people of Massachusetts so long, to have its run, as did the old witchcraft in the time of such political parsons as Noyes, Farris, and Mather.

There seems some hope of a wholesome reaction of common decency and common sense in Faneuil Hall; for, where the decoration of the day was consummated by toasting this puritan orator and national libeller as "a Tully, a Cato, a Howard, and a Christian!" there were some symptoms of reluctance to swallow the "hell broth" of blood and distillation which he had concocted for them. Even the free-soil speaker of the house of representatives rebuked him for his sentiments in favor of the separation of the States and a war between North and South; and a military commander, Col. Wright, a democrat—who was there, it is to be presumed, only because he commanded a company in the procession—spoke openly of the malignant insults of the orator to Senator Mason, of Virginia, and the South. Some cheered, while others hissed; and thus stands the great manufacturing and commercial and intellectual city of Boston on the Fourth of July, 1857, seemingly sanctioning in its observance of that day not only insult to one-half of the Union, and to statesmen, however distinguished, who visit her from that section of the Union, but to her own most eminent scholar, Edward Everett, and her retired senator, Hon. Mr. Winthrop, for extending hospitality and civility to a Virginia senator. What can be the estimate, at least out of New England, of Boston manners, when one of her educated divines invited by her city council to make an oration on our national birth-day, thus alludes to the introduction by Mr. Everett or Mr. Winthrop of Senator Mason, of Virginia, at the celebration of the battle of Bunker Hill: "When we were lifting our marble martyr, (Warren)," said the Rev. Mr. Alger, "to his niche on Bunker Hill, the slaveholder who forced the fugitive-slave bill down our throats was introduced by a slaver of Massachusetts in the very shadow of that awful place, and we listened to his haughty-toned common-places with respectful patience?"

This minister of peace would have had the Virginia senator mobbed, doubtless, and that constitutes his claim to the toast which called him a "Cato and a Christian!"

And yet there is a ray of national light from the murky atmosphere of this abolition observance of the national Sabbath. The board of aldermen of Boston have positively refused to thank the reverend rabid orator, or to print his unseemly address in the name of the city—and that by a vote of nineteen yeas, to one solitary nay. It is said that two aldermen only were absent, and of these one would have said nay. If this is adhered to, it will be honorable restitution to the country, and Boston will look more like her ancient self. Alger must be made a "martyr" now. The ultra abolitionists will lift their bronze martyr to his niche of infamy for the nation's "sacred to point her slow, unswerving finger at."

## TAKEN NOTICE!

The subjoined timely and pointed notice appears in the Worcester Bay State:

"Our political friends at the West will please take note that N. P. Banks, the republican candidate for governor, is also the candidate for the Kansas territory, and the combined suffrages of these parties have just succeeded in amending the constitution of this Commonwealth so as to exclude from the polls all persons who cannot read and write! and that N. P. Banks accepted the nomination of the know-nothings, who advocate the imposition of a term of servitude upon a provocation to the enjoyment of the elective franchise by a naturalized citizen before he was adopted by the republicans. In Massachusetts republicanism and know-nothingism are identical. The distinctive radical know-nothings select Mr. Banks, place him upon the intolerant Springfield platform, and then the republicans that they named adopted the 'solid vote man,' or he defeated. And the Western Spy, which held out when there was no especial pressure and caved in as soon as the first turn was given to the screw, gives in its adhesion to know-nothingism."

## HON. S. W. BLACK.

We copy the following from the Omaha (Nebraska) Times:

"We had the pleasure the other day of taking by the hand the Hon. Samuel W. Black, late of Pennsylvania, and recently appointed to the supreme bench in this Territory. Judge Black bears the deserved reputation of an able jurist, a courteous gentleman, and one of the best public speakers in the United States. We are glad to see him here, and we hope he may like our Territory sufficiently well to become a permanent resident among us. Of this, however, we have no doubt, as we learn it has long been his intention to make Nebraska his permanent home. Judge B. has already made a fine impression on our people by his manly deportment and cordial manners. He held court at Brownville within three hours after his arrival in the Territory, and finished all the proposed business of Nebraska county in one day. We understand he will clear off the entire docket in his district during the present summer. Success to the Judge!"

A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune, in support of a statement that the rigidity of the final examination at West Point has always been commensurate with the wants of the service, observes:

"I deem it proper to remark that, in 1812, the number of graduates was 1; in 1814, war with Great Britain having been declared, 20; in 1815, 40; in 1816, peace being proclaimed, none; in 1817, 19; in 1818, 23; in 1844, 25; in 1845, war with Mexico having been anticipated, 41; in 1846, war with Mexico having been declared, 50; in 1847, 38; in 1848, peace being proclaimed, 38; in 1857, 38."

SALE OF SHAKESPEARE BELONGS.—At a recent auction sale in London a copy of the first edition of the second part of Henry IV. printed in 1609, brought \$500; a copy of the second edition of Henry IV. printed in 1599, brought \$375; a first edition of "Much Ado About Nothing," A. D. 1600, \$325; a copy of Richard III. 1600, \$315; a copy of Richard II. 1605, \$150; a copy of King Lear, 1608, \$109.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS.

## STATE DEPARTMENT.

*The Island of Formosa.*—The following description of this island has been received from a gentleman who has resided for many years in China and its neighborhood:

"The first European settlement in the island of Formosa was made by the Dutch about the year 1620, and they continued to occupy a portion of the west coast up to 1661, when a body of Chinese, headed by Coxinga, having vainly contested against the Tartar invasion, left the province of Fokien, and sought refuge in Formosa, and, after a short struggle, conquered the Dutch, and remained in quiet possession up to 1683, when they were brought under the Tartar rule by the Emperor Kang-hi."

Formosa is situated between 21 deg. 34 min. and 25 deg. 20 min. north latitude, and in the meridian of 121 deg. 30 min. east longitude, being about 50 miles from the main land, and contains about 15,000 geographical square miles, or, according to Johnston, 15,000 square miles.

"The climate is very agreeable, the summer heat is moderated by the southern monsoon, while the freezing wind, which in winter sweeps from the Arctic and chills the inhabitants of the mainland, is tempered in crossing over the sea which separates Formosa from China."

"The soil, like that of all volcanic countries, is very fertile, and the productions are as abundant as they are various. Rice and sugar are exported in enormous quantities; and the camphor of the island supplies nearly the whole of the western world. The orange, peach, tawny, guava, coconut, and avoca palm, (betel nut), &c., &c., flourish, and most of the fruits of the tropics and the temperate zone can be produced on its plains, or the acclivities of its mountains; tea is raised for the use of the inhabitants, and if coffee was cultivated as largely as it may be, it would supply the United States. A variety of fine woods for cabinet work and ship timber are also found here; hogs and poultry are in great abundance; the buffalo is chiefly used in agriculture; some neat cattle and a few horses are raised, and large numbers could be bred, as the climate is favorable and the natural pastures are excellent."

"That great essential of modern navigation, coal, of an excellent quality, is found in abundance at the north end of the island; and happily a good harbor exists near to the coal mines, which naturally points out this location as a suitable one for a naval depot. The cost of bringing coals from Europe, the United States, Barbore, or even the distant ports of Europe, is very high. The island, therefore, which attend all sea-ports, and by which a steam fleet might become useless, are too obvious to require argument, and they render a supply of coal at a naval depot invaluable to every commercial nation."

"In addition to the ship timber of Formosa, oak of the best quality is found in the mountains. The rubber tree, in Java, and the Chinese would soon become expert, and cheap workmen in a ship-yard. Sulphur is found in large quantities, and saltpetre is to be had cheaply from Bengal. A large market would be found in China for properly-manufactured gunpowder."

"The coal and iron of Formosa, and an army of 50,000 men, already produced, and the so-called small stores of a nation could soon be supplied by the island."

"The Chinese, drilled by competent officers, would be superior to the scowpy troops of India, as they have more physical strength, are docile and obedient, and have no mortal fear of death. They bear pain with more docility than any people on earth, and, if properly drilled, would only be inferior to white troops. The pay and ration of a Chinese soldier is from \$20 to \$75 per annum."

"The population of the island is variously estimated, and is given by our own writers at three millions; it must be understood as being an approximation only, as no data exist on which to found a correct opinion."

"The principal ports of China can be reached by steam from Formosa in 10 to 36 hours, and whatever civilized nation holds possession of it can control the commerce by sea between the north and south of China, and the mighty empire. The coast of Japan are within forty-eight hours' steaming from Formosa, and it is a noteworthy fact that the Dutch influence in Japan dates its decline from the period of their expulsion from this island."

"The revenue is of little value to the imperial treasury, although enormous sums are said to be extorted from the inhabitants by the chicanery of its rulers,